



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION OF COUNCILLOR SAM YOON

- WHEREAS,* In this era of fiscal insecurity, the City Council is committed to ensuring that all City policies properly conform with pension laws, which so greatly affect our City's fiscal resources; and
- WHEREAS,* The State-Boston Retirement System and City finances cannot be distinguished and as such the City has a responsibility to ensure that the system is properly administered; and
- WHEREAS,* Unfortunately, instances of pension misconduct have become increasingly familiar throughout various agencies that comprise the State-Boston Retirement System, including instances of abuse in the Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA); and
- WHEREAS,* As a quasi-independent agency the BRA has certain autonomy from the City, but this independence only goes so far. The Boston Globe's April 21, 2009 story about pension abuse within the BRA and the consultant in question's open defiance of the law is startling. When the irresponsible practices of the BRA impact our retirement obligations and the agency openly flouts existing state pension laws, something must be done; and
- WHEREAS,* M.G.L. c. 32, s. 91 limits the public work hours and public salary of someone receiving a governmental retirement allowance. The public retiree cannot work at a governmental body more than 960 hours in any calendar year and their salary is also constrained by statute. These laws are clear, but the enforcement is often left to the retiree; and,
- WHEREAS,* More can and should be done to ensure that any consulting contract executed by the Boston Redevelopment Authority with an individual receiving a government pension is legal and proper. One way to do this is to make compliance with state pension laws a pre-requisite to any contract formation. Therefore be it
- RESOLVED,* That the Boston City Council urges the Boston Redevelopment Authority to immediately implement a procedure imposing a condition on all contracts executed with a consultant or contractor that ensures compliance with state pension laws.